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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Analysis of Chinese Communist Participation in
Korean War by Chinese Communist Leaders in
Tientsin

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1. At a meeting of a small study group of high Chinese Communist leaders in Tientsin on 7 November, the following analysis of Chinese intervention in Korea was made:

- a. The Chinese Communists hope to prolong the Korean struggle as long as possible, since time works in favor of the Communist bloc.
- b. The earlier Chinese decision not to participate openly in the war was based on the desire to prevent the spread of a local conflict into a global war. After the landing at Inchon, the United States regarded the silence of all Communists as an opportunity to extend their area of plunder. Since then the shadow of aggression has been cast over Chinese territory. The United States, like Japan, has selected China as its next objective. In self-defense, and to prevent the outbreak of a world war, the Chinese were required to use force to stop aggression.
- c. Some people fear that participation, even by volunteers, will precipitate a world war, or at least fighting on Chinese territory. This is false. The success of Chinese volunteers since late October has demonstrated to America the strength of the Chinese people and has shown that American aggression is now faced by a strong China backed by the Soviet Union. Thus the American attempt to provoke a world war has been stopped.
- d. In conclusion, the Korean war requires a peaceful solution giving the Korean people an opportunity to choose freely the type of government they wish. Measures backed by force are bound to fail.

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2. The ranking officers of the 20 Army Group view the Korean war as follows:

- a. The decision to intervene in the war was suddenly taken. Before the crossing of the Yalu River, party instructions to the military consistently preached the policy of avoiding open participation. The Party repeatedly defined the major tasks of the Chinese as: economic reconstruction strengthening national defense; liberation of Taiwan and Tibet, the Tibet campaign to take precedence over the Taiwan one to prevent conflict with the United States. If the decision to intervene in Korea had been made earlier, the Communists would not have used forces to enter Tibet.
- b. The Chinese Communists have no intention of spreading the war in Korea. Party leaders have set a limit to assistance to be given, because China lacks the industry and military forces to engage in modern war.
- c. Many people, observing the Soviets sitting idle while Korea losses the war, fail to understand why; furthermore these people fear the Soviets.

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